

**NEW JERSEY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**  
**Commuter and Transit Bus Private Carrier Relief and Jobs Program - Phase 3**  
**Notice of Funding Availability**

The New Jersey Economic Development Authority (“NJEDA” or “Authority”) will begin accepting applications for the non-competitive Commuter and Transit Bus Private Carrier Relief and Jobs Program – Phase 3 (“Private Carrier” or “Program”) at 10:00 AM on Thursday, October 30th, 2025. Applications must be submitted by 5:00 PM on Tuesday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2025.

The Program will make available up to \$3 million in grant funding, as approved by the Board on [September 10, 2025](#), to support commuter and transit bus transportation companies alleviating continued revenue loss due to reduced ridership.

No application fees will be charged for this program. The application can be accessed at <https://www.njeda.gov/busreliefphase3/>

**Purpose and Overview**

Similar to Phase 1 and Phase 2, Phase 3 offers a one-time grant to eligible commuter and transit bus private carrier companies in New Jersey to assist these companies in addressing ongoing revenue losses due to reduced ridership.

**Funding Source**

The total funding available for the Program is \$2,850,000 million allocated from the SFY2026 State Budget.

The total funding and potential award amount are based upon current information about funding availability. NJEDA reserves the right to increase that award amount and number of awards should additional funds become available.

**Program Details**

The Program will provide grants based on 2024 Vehicles Operated in Maximum Service (“VOMS”) data collected and published from the [National Transit Database](#) (“NTD”) for each approved applicant contributing to the overall well-being of communities, helping maintain essential transportation services, and fostering economic resilience within the State.

**Eligible Applicants**

Eligible applicants must meet the following criteria which include, but are not limited to,:

- Are recognized as an active Private Carrier by NJ Transit at time of application, as demonstrated by NJ Transit program participation or other equivalent documentation.
  - Ferry operators providing bus service that are designated as Private Carriers are also eligible.
- Are a for-profit business
- Are registered to do business in and operating in the state of New Jersey, as evidenced by a valid New Jersey Tax Clearance Certificate **at the time of application submission**;
- Provide active Fixed Route Services or Commuter Bus service. Proof of active service can be shown by providing route documentation (route map, schedules, etc.), proof of ridership (ticket sales, passenger counts, etc.), vehicle revenue miles, or other equivalent documentation.
- Satisfy the Authority's debarment/disqualification review and not have any defaults or outstanding obligations to the Authority; and
- Are in good standing with the following agencies: New Jersey Department of Labor, New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, New Jersey Division of Taxation, and New Jersey Transit **at the time of application submission**.

### **Ineligible Applicants**

- **Ineligible entities** include public agencies, authorities, or government entities
- Other transportation services, including but not limited to those provided by charter buses, school buses, municipal shuttles, vanpool, and on-demand bus services, **are not eligible**.

### **Grant Amounts**

Grant awards will be determined based on the percentage of 2024 VOMS each applicant has in relation to the total 2024 VOMS from all applicants. For example, if an applicant's 2024 VOMS is 19% of the total VOMS from all applicants, then that applicant would receive 19% of the \$2,850,000 available funding.

### **Application Submission and Review Process**

Applications will be accepted through a non-competitive application process via the program's application portal, which will be open from October 30th, 2025 at 10am through December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2025 at 5:00pm. Upon closure of the application period, all applications will be reviewed for completeness.

Applicants that submitted incomplete applications will be provided with the opportunity to cure by submitting the missing information within 10 business days. At the sole discretion of the Authority, staff may ask for clarification of the information included in the application, including but not limited to narrative responses, supporting documentation, and attachments. Applicants will have 10 business days after notification to provide missing or incomplete documents. Applicants that are non-responsive to NJEDA requests for additional information will be administratively

withdrawn. If an Applicant responds but is unable to provide the requested additional information, the application will be declined.

### **Disbursement of Funding**

The Program will disburse the entire award upon execution of a Grant Agreement with the Authority.

### **Fees**

No application fees will be charged for this program.

### **Additional Information**

Additional information on the Commuter and Transit Bus Pandemic Relief and Jobs Program may be found at <https://www.njeda.gov/busreliefphase3/>

### **State and Federal Requirements**

Funding for this grant is subject to State and Federal statutes including, but not limited to, the following, which may impact affiliates: N.J.S.A. 52:32-60.1, et seq., which prevents the New Jersey government entities from certain dealings with businesses engaged in prohibited activities in Belarus or Russia; Compliance with the list of “Specially Designated Nationals and Blocked Persons” promulgated by the Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC), <https://sanctionssearch.ofac.treas.gov>; N.J.S.A. 24:6I-49 which provides that the following are not eligible for most State or local economic incentives (a) a person or entity issued a license to operate as a cannabis cultivator, manufacturer, wholesaler, distributor, retailer, or delivery service, or that employs a certified personal use cannabis handler to perform work for or on behalf of a cannabis establishment, distributor, or delivery service; and (b) a property owner, developer, or operator of a project to be used, in whole or in part, by or to benefit a cannabis cultivator, manufacturer, wholesaler, distributor, retailer, or delivery service, or to employ a certified personal use cannabis handler to perform work for or on behalf of a cannabis establishment, distributor, or delivery service; and N.J.S.A. 52:13D-12, et seq., which prohibits a member of the Legislature or a State officer or employee or their partners or a corporation in which they owns or controls more than 1% of the stock to undertake or execute any contract, agreement, sale, or purchase of \$25.00 or more, made, entered into, awarded or granted by any State agency, with certain limited exceptions including grant awards by the New Jersey Commission on Science, Innovation and Technology.